

GET THE MEANING READING: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Students practice reading comprehension and answering short-answer questions

Zone In

Question of the Week

1. Tell students they will present either a YES or NO on the question. They have 2 minutes to put together their argument. They will have 1 minute to present.
2. Question: *Should the legal limit for buying alcohol be lowered to 18?*
3. Group can divide into YES and NO sides; or assign. Each group chooses a Speaker.
4. Time 2 minutes. Each side's Speaker presents for 1 minute.
5. Ask for show of hands—YES, NO.

Topic

Get the meaning reading; short answer questions

(Materials: **Sobriety High ♦♦** and **Short Answer Questions Sobriety High ♦♦**)

Introduction

What techniques can you use to get the meaning from reading, like in a textbook?

Explain: Look at titles and illustrations for an idea of what it's about (this is called "pre-reading").

- Skim—pay attention to first and last sentences of paragraphs.
- Read more carefully, think about what is coming, and summarize in your head.
- Make notes of main points or underline if you can.
- Skip words you don't know and try to guess the meaning from the rest of the reading (from the "context"). Go back to new words later.

Activity

Students will read about a school for teenagers who have been addicted to drugs or alcohol.

Ask: What do you think such a school might be like? Predict what might be in the article. (Allow very brief responses.)

Explain: As you read, see if your predictions were correct.

- Hand out reading.
- Tell students to answer the True/False and sentence completion questions.
- When they are finished, allow them to compare answers with a neighbor.
- Discuss the answers.

Answers

True/False answers: 1 false 2 true 3 false 4 true 5 false 6 true 7 true

Sentence completion answers: 1 end up 2 hung out with 3 grew up 4 keep up

Be sure everyone understood that the sentence completions called for changing the verb tense. The verbs “hang” and “grow” had to go into the past tense.

Wrap Up

Were students’ predictions correct? Is the school what they thought it would be before reading the article?



CLINIC 16 HANDOUT

SOBRIETY HIGH

Case History 1: Lior

Lior is 15-years-old. Lior was suspended many times for drugs. Lior shows that kids who use drugs don't always come from poor, uneducated families. His mom's a college professor. But the kids he hung out with at school were all taking drugs.

Case History 2: Sarah

Sarah grew up with an alcoholic, drug addict mom. When she was only 13 she left home to be around drugs and drug dealers. When she was 14, she worked as a prostitute for one of the drug dealers to pay for her habit. One day she escaped and called her mom. She came and rescued Sarah. Sarah says she feels safe now.

How it started

Sobriety High opened in 1989. In other drug and alcohol centers, kids were only treated for their chemical addictions. After their treatment was finished, they were sent back to the school and neighborhood where they started using drugs. Many of them returned to their old habits. Sobriety High provides a safe place for kids to recover in and deal with their problems.

Who goes there

Sobriety High is for 14- to 18-year-old kids. They come from all different backgrounds. There are about 45 students at the school. There are also four teachers and a special education consultant. The kids are recovering addicts, but they are quite normal and enjoy all the same things which ordinary kids like doing.

The students' promise

The students sign a form when they arrive at the school promising not to take any drugs or use alcohol. If they break this promise, they are suspended. They will have to leave the school for a period of time. If they keep doing it, they may never be allowed to return.

How it works

Sobriety High was built in an out-of-the-way place in Minneapolis, mid-west USA. There is a reason for this. The kids are usually getting away from the people they've been drinking or doing drugs with. "Students feel protected here," Judi Hanson, the school principal, says. "At Sobriety High they are safe." The students often call Judi "Mom" and open up to her. They attend therapy sessions and attend regular classes. Many of them later go to a university or college.

Learning to have fun without drugs

Sobriety High is not just about getting over a painful past. It's important for the kids to learn to have a good time just like other kids do. At the high school prom there isn't any alcohol. At parties they only drink Coke and eat burgers. But they still laugh and have fun. Perhaps the kids at Sobriety High learn the best lesson of all: the value of trust and friendship.



CLINIC 16 HANDOUT

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

SOBRIETY HIGH

Activity 1: Comprehension

Read the sentences about Sobriety High. Are they true or false? Circle the correct answer.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. All kids who go to Sobriety High are from poverty. | T | F |
| 2. Sarah had to do some terrible things to pay for her drug addiction. | T | F |
| 3. Drug or alcohol addicted kids who don't go to Sobriety High usually go to live in a new place when their treatment finishes. | T | F |
| 4. Sobriety High makes students agree to a contract of behavior while they are at school. | T | F |
| 5. Sometimes kids have to leave school for breaking their promise not to drink alcohol or use drugs. | T | F |
| 6. The school principal becomes like a mother to the kids at Sobriety High. | T | F |
| 7. Like other schools in the USA, school dances and parties are important at Sobriety High. | T | F |

Activity 2: Sentence Completion

Write the correct multi-word verbs to fill the gaps in the sentences.

grew up

end up

hung out with

keep up

The kind of kids who (1) _____ going to Sobriety High are the same as ordinary kids, except that they are recovering alcoholics or drug addicts. They may have (2) _____ a bad crowd at school or perhaps they (3) _____ with parents who abused drugs or alcohol. Some kids had to steal to (4) _____ their habits.